(b) No, Sir. There are many studies which are carried out in different countries coming out with different data.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Human Resource Development in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), has launched Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) with the objective to empower the adolescent population to make informed choices and to develop life skills for addressing psychological, social and health concerns.

Zonal benches of Supreme Court

2229. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to establish zonal benches of Supreme Court;

(b) if so, how many zonal benches are under consideration;

(c) what would be specific jurisdiction of those zonal benches;

(d) where those benches would be established; and

(e) how much is the budget for establishment of those zonal benches?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Bicameral Legislature in Nagaland

2230. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nagaland Government has forwarded a resolution of the State Assembly proposing to make the State Legislature bicameral, by creating a Legislative Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action that has been taken by Government on the proposal of the State?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The requisite information from Ministry of Home Affairs is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recall of elected representatives

2231. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Constitution, which does not provide for recall of any elected representative, allows States to enact laws relating to local body elections;

(b) whether it is a fact that it was for the first time in the country that voters recalled their elected municipal chiefs of Gunderdehi, Nawagarh and Rajpur in Chhattisgarh for not delivering, as provided in the Chhattisgarh Municipality Act; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider similar rights for voters in India, both at State level and National level, so as to recall their elected representatives, after consulting the Election Commission in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Constitution does not provide for provisions to recall elected representatives. However, Part-IXA of the Constitution contain enabling provisions whereunder Legislature of a State may make laws to provide for municipalities, and other related matters.

(b) and (c) The requisite information is-being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Uniform Civil Code

2232. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to enforce Uniform Civil Code;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise in view of the above.

(c) Bringing in a Uniform Civil Code involves changes in the Personal Laws including those of the minority communities. It has been the consistent policy of the Central Government not to interfere in the Personal Laws of the minority communities unless the necessary initiatives for such changes come from a sizeable cross-section of such communities themselves.

Transfer and appointment of Judges in higher judiciary

†2233. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to change the present systems of transfer and appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the shortcomings which need to be overcome; and

(c) whether Government has chosen certain criteria to formulate the new system; if so, the details thereof and by when the new system would be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Appointment of adhoc Supreme Court Judges

2234. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of adhoc and acting Supreme Court Judges appointed in terms of Articles 127 and 128 of the Constitution so far, since 1st January, 2000; and

(b) whether it is a fact that no such appointments have been made during the said period and if so, the last time such an appointment was made with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No ad-hoc appointment of Judges have been made in the Supreme Court under Articles 127 and 128 of the Constitution from 1st January, 2000 till date.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.